

effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered. This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that was cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed less than three months after the U.S. filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-identified application is respectfully requested. The U.S. Patent

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and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: January 31, 2002

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A DOCPHOENIX

## APPL PARTS

\_\_\_\_\_**IMIS**\_\_\_\_\_  
Internal Misc. Paper

\_\_\_\_\_**LET.**\_\_\_\_\_  
Misc. Incoming Letter

\_\_\_\_\_**371P**\_\_\_\_\_  
PQT Papers in a 371Application

11/31/02A... 2  
Amendment Including Elections

\_\_\_\_\_**ABST**\_\_\_\_\_  
Abstract

\_\_\_\_\_**ADS**\_\_\_\_\_  
Application Data Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_**AF/D**\_\_\_\_\_  
Affidavit or Exhibit Received

\_\_\_\_\_**APPENDIX**\_\_\_\_\_  
Appendix

\_\_\_\_\_**ARTIFACT**\_\_\_\_\_  
Artifact

\_\_\_\_\_**BIB**\_\_\_\_\_  
Bib Data Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_**CLM**\_\_\_\_\_  
Claim

\_\_\_\_\_**COMPUTER**\_\_\_\_\_  
Computer Program Listing

\_\_\_\_\_**CRFL**\_\_\_\_\_  
All CRF Papers for Backfile

\_\_\_\_\_**DIST**\_\_\_\_\_  
Terminal Disclaimer Filed

\_\_\_\_\_**DRW**\_\_\_\_\_  
Drawings

\_\_\_\_\_**FOR**\_\_\_\_\_  
Foreign Reference

\_\_\_\_\_**FRPR**\_\_\_\_\_  
Foreign Priority Papers

\_\_\_\_\_**IDS**\_\_\_\_\_  
IDS Including 1449

\_\_\_\_\_**NPL**\_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Patent Literature

\_\_\_\_\_**OATH**\_\_\_\_\_  
Oath or Declaration

\_\_\_\_\_**PET.**\_\_\_\_\_  
Petition

\_\_\_\_\_**RETMAIL**\_\_\_\_\_  
Mail Returned by USPS

\_\_\_\_\_**SEQLIST**\_\_\_\_\_  
Sequence Listing

\_\_\_\_\_**SPEC**\_\_\_\_\_  
Specification

\_\_\_\_\_**SPEC NO**\_\_\_\_\_  
Specification Not in English

\_\_\_\_\_**TRNA**\_\_\_\_\_  
Transmittal New Application

## OUTGOING

\_\_\_\_\_**CTMS**\_\_\_\_\_  
Misc. Office Action

\_\_\_\_\_**1449**\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed 1449

\_\_\_\_\_**892**\_\_\_\_\_  
892

\_\_\_\_\_**ABN**\_\_\_\_\_  
Abandonment

\_\_\_\_\_**APDEC**\_\_\_\_\_  
Board of Appeals Decision

\_\_\_\_\_**APEA**\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner Answer

\_\_\_\_\_**CTAV**\_\_\_\_\_  
Count Advisory Action

\_\_\_\_\_**CTEQ**\_\_\_\_\_  
Count Ex parte Quayle

\_\_\_\_\_**CTFR**\_\_\_\_\_  
Count Final Rejection

\_\_\_\_\_**CTNF**\_\_\_\_\_  
Count Non-Final

\_\_\_\_\_**CTRS**\_\_\_\_\_  
Count Restriction

\_\_\_\_\_**EXIN**\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner Interview

\_\_\_\_\_**M903**\_\_\_\_\_  
DO/EO Acceptance

\_\_\_\_\_**M905**\_\_\_\_\_  
DO/EO Missing Requirement

\_\_\_\_\_**NFDR**\_\_\_\_\_  
Formal Drawing Required

\_\_\_\_\_**NOA**\_\_\_\_\_  
Notice of Allowance

\_\_\_\_\_**PETDEC**\_\_\_\_\_  
Petition Decision

## INCOMING

\_\_\_\_\_**AP.B**\_\_\_\_\_  
Appeal Brief

\_\_\_\_\_**C.AD**\_\_\_\_\_  
Change of Address

\_\_\_\_\_**N/AP**\_\_\_\_\_  
Notice of Appeal

\_\_\_\_\_**PA..**\_\_\_\_\_  
Change in Power of Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_**REM**\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Remarks in Amendment

\_\_\_\_\_**XT/**\_\_\_\_\_  
Extension of Time filed separate

**Internal**

\_\_\_\_\_**SRNT**\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner Search Notes

\_\_\_\_\_**CLMPTO**\_\_\_\_\_  
PTO Prepared Complete Claim Set

\_\_\_\_\_**ECBOX**\_\_\_\_\_  
Evidence Copy Box Identification

\_\_\_\_\_**WCLM**\_\_\_\_\_  
Claim Worksheet

\_\_\_\_\_**WFEE**\_\_\_\_\_  
Fee Worksheet

## File Wrapper

\_\_\_\_\_**FWCLM**\_\_\_\_\_  
File Wrapper Claim

\_\_\_\_\_**IIFW**\_\_\_\_\_  
File Wrapper Issue Information

\_\_\_\_\_**SRFW**\_\_\_\_\_  
File Wrapper Search Info